**Checks and Balances**

**What the Branches do**

Legislative Branch- The Legislative Branch is the main law-making branch of our government.

Executive Branch- The Executive Branch of our government makes sure that the people follow the laws that the Legislative Branch makes.

Judicial Branch – The Judicial Branch makes sure that the people understand the law in the correct way.

**Legislative Branch**

Checks of the Executive branch

* Has the power to enact taxes
* Power to declare war
* Power to impeach the president
* Trial to the impeach of the president
* Approval to replace the vice president
* For the senate to approve departmental appointments and treaties
* Can override presidents vetoes
* The choosing of the president and vice president

Checks of the Judicial Branch

* The senate approves the federal judges
* Impeachment power
* Trail of impeachment
* Able to initiate constitutional amendments
* Power to set courts inferior to the Supreme Court
* Power to set jurisdiction of courts
* Power to alter the size of the Supreme Court

Checks of the Legislative Branch

* Bills must be passed by both houses of Congress
* House must originate revenue bills
* Neither house may adjourn for more than three days without the consent of the other house
* All journals are to be published

**Executive Branch**

Checks of the Legislative Branch

* + Vice President is President of the Senate
  + Commander in chief of the military
  + Recess appointments
  + Emergency calling into session of one or both houses of Congress
  + May force adjournment when both houses cannot agree on adjournment
  + Compensation cannot be diminished

Checks on the Judiciary Branch

* + Power to appoint judges
  + Pardon power

Checks on the Executive Branch

* + Vice President and Cabinet can vote that the President is unable to discharge his duties
  + Veto power

**Judicial Branch**

Checks on the Legislature Branch

* + Judicial review
  + Seats are held on good behavior
  + Compensation cannot be diminished

Checks on the Executive Branch

* + Judicial review
  + Chief Justice sits as President of the Senate during presidential impeachment

**Pictures of how checks and balances work**





